

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 06200 171911Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----171915Z 116504 /40

O 191326Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2729
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06200

EXDIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR APPOINTMENTS SECRETARY AND ADVANCE OFC
STATE FOR A AND S-MR. SPIEGEL
NSC FOR HUNTER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY), OCON, UK
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT - QUEEN'S INVITATION

1. I HAVE DISCUSSED WITH MR. WOODWARD AND AMBASSADOR DOBELLE PROBLEM ARISING FROM DECISION THAT PRESIDENT SHOULD REGRET QUEEN'S INVITATION TO TETE-A-TETE LUNCHEON ON MAY 9 DUE TO NEED FOR EARLY DEPARTURE FOR ASSAD MEETING IN GENEVA. I URGE THAT THIS DECISION BE RE-CONSIDERED AND THAT DEPARTURE BE DELAYED AND GENEVA MEETINGS BE SLIPPED TO PERMIT PRESIDENT TO ACCEPT HER MAJESTY'S INVITATION. GIVEN IMPORTANCE OF GENEVA SESSIONS, I BELIEVE BRITISH WILL UNDERSTAND IF WE MAKE CLEAR THAT PRESIDENT HAS ONLY ONE HOUR FOR LUNCH.

2. QUEEN'S INVITATION WILL PROVIDE ONLY OPPORTUNITY FOR THESE TWO HEADS OF STATE TO MEET ALONE. IT ACCORDS WITH HER MAJESTY'S PRACTICE. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE NO PREVIOUS PRESIDENT HAS EVER DECLINED SUCH AN INVITATION. CONSIDERABLE SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE IS ATTACHED TO THIS
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HERE. IT IS A UNIQUE AND UNUSUAL TRIBUTE TO IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP WHICH HAS GOTTEN OFF TO SUCH A GOOD START WITH NEW ADMINISTRATION. I BELIEVE BRITISH WOULD EXPECT THAT WE WOULD MAKE MAJOR EFFORT TO EXHIBIT ANY FLEXIBILITY AVAILABLE IN GENEVA SCHEDULE TO ALLOW THIS MEETING TO TAKE PLACE, AND THERE WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL DISAPPOINTMENT--EVEN MISUNDERSTAND--

ING--IF WE DID NOT DO SO. IN PROTOCOLARY TERMS THIS
INVITATION HAS SAME PRE-EMPTIVE CHARACTER THAT IS
NORMALLY ATTACHED TO A PRESIDENTIAL INVITATION IN THE

U.S.

SPIERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 19-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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